

SUPPLEMENTAL AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS

Three Replacement Sheets of Drawings containing figures 1, 3 and 4 are attached hereto. The Replacement Sheets of Drawings contain corrected figures 1, 3, and 4. In this regard, Figure 1 has been amended to show reference numeral 12, as described on at least page 17 of the present specification. In regard to Figures 1 and 3, these figures have been amended to delete reference numerals 2, 11a, and 11b, which were not referred to in the present written specification. Further, Figure 4 has been amended to include a --Prior Art-- label. No new matter has been added.

Attachment: Replacement Sheets (3)

REMARKS

As an initial matter, Applicants would like to thank the Examiner, Ms. Rachel Beveridge, for the courtesy of the telephone conversation extended to Applicants' attorney, Mr. William Boshnick, on October 26, 2006. During the telephone conversation, Applicants' Attorney indicated that amendments to the drawings were inadvertently omitted in the previous Response filed on September 27, 2006. In this regard, the Examiner indicated that she had not yet reviewed the Previous Response, and that this Supplemental Response would be considered, along with the previous Response filed on September 27, 2006, if this Supplemental Response is received in a timely fashion. In this regard, Applicants submit that as of today, October 27, 2006, no Official communication has been received in reply to the Response filed on September 27, 2006.

Upon entry of the above amendments, Figures 1, 3 and 4 will have been amended. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the outstanding objection to the Drawings.

In the Official Action, the Examiner objected to the drawings pursuant 37 CFR 1.84(p)(5) for not containing reference numeral 12 (mentioned on page 17 of the present specification), Figure 1 pursuant 37 CFR 1.84(p)(5) for containing reference numerals 2, 11a, and 11b (shown in the drawings, but not mentioned in the written specification), and figure 4 pursuant MPEP § 608.02(g), for not having a --Prior Art-- label.

By the present amendment, Figure 1 has been amended to show reference numeral 12, as described on at least page 17 of the present

specification, Figures 1, 3 and 4, have been amended to delete reference numbers 2, 11a, and 11b, which were not referred to in the present written specification, and figure 4 has been amended to include a --Prior Art-- label.. Accordingly, the objection to drawings should be withdrawn.

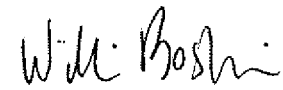
SUMMARY

Applicants submit that the present application is in condition for allowance, and respectfully request an indication to that effect.

Should the Examiner have any questions, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,
Atsushi KOYAMA et al_

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